
ANNUAL REPORT

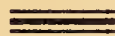
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Sanitary and . . .
Housing Conditions

OF THE

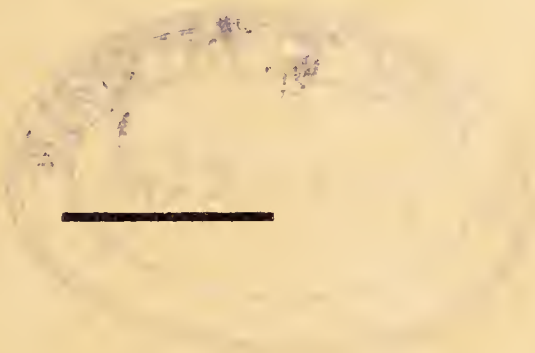
Kirkham Urban District

For the Year 1950



A. DODD, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



KIRKHAM :

Printed by ROBERTS, Rear of 111, Poulton Street,
1951





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OF THE

Kirkham Urban District

FOR THE YEAR 1950

*To the Chairman and Members of the Kirkham
Urban District Council.*

Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1950.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	940
Home Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,513
(At the 1931 census the population was 4,031 whilst in 1949 the civilian population was estimated to be 4,710).							
Number of inhabited houses at 31-12-50	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,348
Rateable value at 31-12-50	...	...	...	...	...	...	£30,932
Amount produced by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£123

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.—108 births (61 males and 47 females) were registered during the year. The birth rate of 21.08 per 1,000 compared with a rate of 22.8 per 1,000 in 1949.

Stillbirths.—There were 2 stillbirths during the year making a stillbirth rate of 27 per 1,000 total live and stillbirths compared with a rate of 9 in 1949.

Deaths.—65 deaths (32 males and 33 females) were registered during the year. The death rate at 14.0 per 1,000 compares with a death rate of 12.7 per 1,000 in 1949.

Infantile Mortality.—Ten deaths of infants under one year of age occurred. The ages, sexes and causes of death were as follows:—

Cause	Ages of Females	Ages of Males	Total
Prematurity	2 days; 1 day; 4 hrs.; 1 hr.	1 day; 8½ hours; ½ hr.	7
Convulsions and Laryngismus Stridulus	4 months	—	1
Acute Gastric Enteritis	—	4 months	1
Multiple Brain Tumours.....	4 months	—	1
	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 10

The infantile mortality rate was 93 compared with 75 in 1949.
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ... 1
Maternal Mortality 0
Deaths from Tuberculosis, all ages 1
Deaths from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System 0
Deaths from Cancer 6

CAUSES OF DEATH.

The table below shows the causes of death of Urban District residents in 1950:—

Cause of Death	M.	F.	T.
Tuberculosis (Non-respiratory)	0	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	4	0	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	2	7	9
Coronary disease, angina	4	1	5
Other heart disease	4	6	10
Other circulatory disease	4	3	7
Bronchitis	1	2	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	0	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	0	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	0	1
Congenital malformations	0	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	9	17
All accidents (other than motor vehicle) ...	1	0	1
Suicide	1	1	2
	<hr/> 32	<hr/> 33	<hr/> 65

The chief causes of death of Kirkham Urban District residents as shown by the above table were: Heart disease 15, Vascular and other circulatory diseases 16, Cancer 6 and Respiratory diseases 4. The number of deaths from heart, vascular and circulatory diseases combined at 31 were approximately half of the total deaths and deaths from cancer amounted to nearly one-sixth of the total deaths.

The table below shows the comparisons between birth and death rates in England and Wales, 148 smaller towns and this district for the past five years:

Year	England and Wales		148 smaller towns (25-50,000 pop.)		Kirkham Urban District	
	Births	Deaths	Births	Deaths	Births	Deaths
1946	19.1	11.5	21.3	11.7	18.6	14.6
1947	20.5	12.0	22.2	11.9	22.0	12.3
1948	17.9	17.9	19.2	10.7	22.1	12.1
1949	16.7	16.7	18.0	11.6	22.8	12.7
1950	15.8	11.6	16.7	11.6	21.08	14.1

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Personnel.

Medical Officer of Health: G. G. WRAY, M.D., D.P.H.
(up to March, 1950).

A. DODD, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Other appointments held: Medical Officer of Health
Borough of Lytham St. Annes, Urban District of
Poulton-le-Fylde and Rural District of Fylde, Divisional
Medical Officer of Health, Health Division No. 3,
Lancashire County Council.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector: J. ECKERSLEY,
A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., R.P.

Hospital Facilities.—For general cases the main hospitals used are the Preston Royal Infirmary of the Preston and Chorley Hospital Management Committee and the Blackpool Victoria, Wesham Park and Lytham St. Annes Hospitals of the Blackpool and Fylde Hospital Management Committee. Infectious Diseases cases are admitted to the Devonshire Road Hospital, Blackpool, excepting in the case of Tuberculosis and Smallpox. Main provision for cases of Tuberculosis is at Elswick Sanatorium. Accommodation for Smallpox is provided by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board at the Ainsworth Smallpox Hospital, near Bury.

Ambulance Facilities.—The Ambulance Service is Administered by the Lancashire County Council. The needs of the district are met by vehicles from the Wesham Ambulance Station.

Laboratory Facilities.—Bacteriological examinations of specimens are carried out at the laboratories of the Blackpool Victoria Hospital and the Preston Royal Infirmary. The latter laboratory is also used for the examination of water and milk samples.

Professional Nursing in the Home.—General nursing cases and confinements are attended by District Nurses and Midwives of the Lancashire County Council.

Venereal Disease Service.—Facilities for treatment of Venereal Disease are available at Blackpool Victoria Hospital and Preston Royal Infirmary.

School Medical and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics.—A County Council Clinic is located in Mellor Road and sessions held, at the time of preparation of this report, are as follows :—

Monday	...	a.m.	Minor Ailments Clinic.
Tuesday	...	p.m.	Ante-Natal (alternate Tuesdays).
Thursday	...	a.m.	Immunisation (third Thursday in each month).
		a.m.	Minor Ailments.
		a.m.	Vaccination (third Thursday in each month).
		p.m.	C.W.C.

Bye-Laws.—Bye-Laws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, were made during the year with the object of securing more cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling of foodstuffs.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the numbers of diseases other than tuberculosis notified during the year 1950:—

DISEASES.	CASES NOTIFIED.										HOSPITAL.			
	Total Cases at all ages	Under 1 year.	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	25—	45—	65 and over.	Age unknown.	Total Deaths.	Total Cases rem'd to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of Persons belonging to District.
Smallpox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	11	..	..	1	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria & Membranous Group ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever (inc. Paratyphoid) ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Primary Pneumonia	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Polio-encephalitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Malaria contracted abroad	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Do. In this country .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Any other diseases notifiable in district, e.g.,—Chicken-pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles and German Measles	12	..	3	2	6	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	15	1	2	7	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Any other disease .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	44	1	6	10	23	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..

Typhoid Fever.—A case of typhoid fever, a girl aged 8 years, occurred in October. No connection with other cases, recent or remote, was traced but it appears probable from investigation that infection was acquired from outside the district.

Scarlet Fever.—This disease continued mild. In no case was milk involved as a source of infection.

Acute Poliomyelitis.—Both cases of poliomyelitis were mild and recovery ensued.

TUBERCULOSIS.

A tuberculosis service is provided in its various aspects by the Regional Hospital Board, the Lancashire County Council and District Councils. The Hospital Board is responsible mainly for treatment, the County Council for care and after care, and the Sanitary Authority for prevention. A Tuberculosis Health Visitor is provided by the Lancashire County Council and the Hospital and Chest Clinic facilities by the Blackpool and Fylde Hospital Management Committee.

New Cases and Mortality During 1950:

Age Periods	— New Cases—				— Deaths —			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
	Pulmon'y		Non-Pulmon'y		Pulmon'y		Non-Pulmon'y	
0— 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1— 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
5—10	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
10—15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20—25	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
25—35	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
35—45	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45—55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55—65	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	1	..	1	2	...	...	...	1
	1		3		0		1	

In 1949 there were 4 new cases notified, and no deaths reported from the disease.

The County Council has prepared a scheme of protection against Tuberculosis by B.C.G. Inoculation which should be in operation during the coming year.

In conclusion I thank the Members of the Health Committee and Officers of the Urban District Council and in particular the Sanitary Inspector and Mr N. Swift for courtesy and help.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

A. DODD, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Kirkham

Urban Sanitary Authority

*To the Chairman and Members of the Kirkham
Urban District Council.*

Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my fourth Annual Report on the work done in the Sanitary Department during 1950.

During the year 41 notices and letters have been served with regard to the abatement of nuisances and the remedying of insanitary defects.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Public Cleansing.—The Scavenging of the whole District is carried out weekly.

The work is done by the Council's men and motor under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

Average weekly number of loads of refuse dealt with at the Tip : 34.

Conversions	During 5 years
During 1950	1945-49

No. of Privy Closets :—

To fresh water closets	...	...	...	1	...	...	12
To pail closets	...	...	...	None	...	...	None

No. of Pail Closets :—

To fresh water closets	...	...	...	None	...	...	None
To waste water closets	...	...	...	None	...	...	None

Conversions During 5 years
During 1950 1945-49

No. of Waste Water Closets :—

To fresh water closets None None

No. of houses at which movable ashbins
have been substituted for fixed
receptacles 1 8

Is there any definite policy at the present time for abolishing
privy middens and pail closets? All now converted into
fresh water closets.

What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for
new property? All fresh water closets.

The following are the number of closets and ash-pits :—

Fresh water closets	...	...	...	...	1,442
Waste water closets	...	...	...	...	0
Privy closets	...	...	...	...	0
Privy ash-pits	...	...	...	...	0
Dry ash-pits	...	...	...	...	0
Ashbins in town	...	...	...	...	1,297

Rivers and Streams.—No rivers and streams pass through
the district.

Sewers and Sewerage System.—The sewerage, in conjunc-
tion with that from Wesham, runs to tanks at Newton and then
into the River Ribble. The sewerage disposal works consist of two
detritus tanks, six settling tanks, and 14 sludge beds. The sewerage
is pumped from the settling tanks to the sludge beds. These tanks
were constructed in 1941.

No. of houses connected direct to sewer ... 1,314

No. of houses connected to septic tanks ... 34

Estimated number of houses on the water-
carriage system 1,348

Water Supply is good and ample, and is under the control of the Fylde Water Board.

The water mains have been flushed by the Fylde Water Board's workmen at different times.

All the houses in the town are supplied with Fylde Water.

Supplies to Houses.

Direct to Houses.

By means of standpipe.

No. of dwelling houses	Estimated No. of population	No. of dwelling houses	Estimated No. of population
1,348	6,513	Nil.	Nil.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTIONS.

No. of disinfections after death or removal of tuberculosis cases	...	...	...	...	...	4
No. of houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	4
No. of Schools disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
No. of Library and other School books disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

All cases are visited upon receipt of notification. After the death or removal of patients for either hospital or sanatorium treatment the rooms are thoroughly disinfected with formalin.

SCHOOLS.

The Schools are inspected regularly and found satisfactory. All the Schools are supplied with Fylde water, and have fresh water closets connected direct to the sewer.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Number on Register : Nil.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number of premises : None. Type of offensive trade : None.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

(1) INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories with Mechanical power ...	76	6	—
Factories without Mechanical power	—	—	—
Other premises under the Act (including Building and Engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises)	16	1	—
Total	92	7	0

DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS.	Number of Defects.			Number of Defects in respect of which Prosecutions were Instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	14	14	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	2	2	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7):—				
Insufficient	2	2	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	1	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	1	1	—	—
Total	20	20	2	—

Number of Factory and Works' Chimneys in the District ... 7

Number of Black Smoke observations 21

Time Limit Allowed—Minutes per hour 6

Livestock (Restriction on Slaughtering)
(No. 2) Order, 1940.

Ministry of Food Order which came into operation
January 15th, 1940.

None of the three Registered Slaughter-houses have been used during the year.

All animals destined for food have been killed outside the district and the meat brought in and allocated to our butchers.

FOOD CONDEMNED.

51 tins Milk.	52½ lbs. Boiled Ham.
2 lbs. Onions.	1 tin Marmalade.
60 lbs. Rabbit.	4 lbs. Sausage Meat.
2 tins Gooseberries.	2 tins Steak.
1 tin Salmon.	1¼ lbs. Cheese.
33 stone Haddock.	6 bottles Salad Cream.
1 tin Tomatoes.	

SHELLFISH (Molluscs).

Particulars of any shellfish beds or layings which may be in the district : None in District.

Milk Supply.—Action taken with regard to milk, including inspection of farms and dairies, the Administration of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, and the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938.

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, there are 9 Registered producers and retailers of Milk, and 3 Registered retailers only. 21 inspections have been made to these premises, which have been kept in a clean, sanitary condition.

All the farms are supplied with Fylde water.

No. of Registered Cheese Factories	1
No. of Registered Cowkeepers, including Dairy Farms ...	9
No. of Milk Purveyors (other than Cowkeepers)	3
No. of Licences issued to Dealers in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk	2

Approximate number of Dairy Cows in district120

Number of Licences issued in respect of Pasteurised Milk :—

Pasteurising Plants 0

Retail Distributors 2

Part of the milk supply is brought in by farmers from the surrounding districts.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

Particulars of any action taken under provisions of :—

(a) Shops Act, 1934 None

(b) Public Health Act, 1936. 4 informal notices were served for lack of ventilation, etc. These were complied with.

Camping Sites.—None in district.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT—SANITARY INSPECTION.

No. of Premises visited	315
„ „ Defects or Nuisances	75
„ „ Preliminary Notices served by Inspector	41
„ „ Statutory Notices served by Order of Council	4
„ „ Nuisances remedied	75
„ „ Drains opened out and defects rectified	25
„ „ Defective roofs and gutters repaired	15
„ „ Houses repaired inside	20
„ „ Defective w.c. basins and cisterns	40

RAG FLOCKS ACTS, 1911 and 1928.

Number of premises in district in which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold : None.

HOUSING.

Number of houses on Rate Books 1,348

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) By the Local Authority 46

(b) By other bodies or persons 4

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

1. General Observations as to Housing Conditions.—

The general housing conditions are fair, mostly small to medium sized houses of both parlour and non-parlour type. Repairs and maintenance can be carried out practically as and when required to keep existing houses up to a reasonable standard.

Approximate number of back-to-back houses in the district :
None.

Comment on the extent to which housing matters have been affected by the changed conditions during the year under review :
No great change.

Sufficiency of supply of houses : Approximately 150 houses are required of the three-bedroom type and 50 of the two-bedroom type.

Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

No. of Houses inspected for housing defects 72

No. of inspections made for the purpose 124

Remedy of defects without service of formal notice 29

No. of Houses inspected and recorded under Housing Act,
1925-32 Nil

Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

No. of Houses in respect of which notices were served
requiring defects to be remedied 2

No. of Houses in which defects were remedied after service
of formal notice :—

(a) By Owners 2

(b) By L.A. in default of owners —

2. Housing Schemes.—Particulars of any housing schemes in hand or completed during 1950 :—

A scheme of 46 houses was completed by the Council during the year and 4 houses were built by private persons under licence, 129 Council houses have now been erected since 1946.

Negotiations are proceeding for land and it is hoped to start a further scheme during 1951. One house should be completed under private enterprise and a further 7 licences will be issued and some may be completed in 1951.

3. Overcrowding.—Comment briefly on the position with regard to overcrowding conditions in the area : The nation wide causes of housing shortage, such as the six war years, with complete cessation of building, followed by building on a restricted scale, apply to this district. There are still some 200 applicants for Council houses, a good percentage of which are from persons "in rooms." New applications are still being received as fast as houses can be provided and therefore the waiting list does not appreciably diminish.

4. Clearance and Improvement Areas.—Give particulars of any action taken during 1950 : None.

Notable sanitary improvements during 1950 : None.

OVERCROWDING. HOUSING ACT, 1936, PART IV.

(a)	No. of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	12
	No. of families dwelling therein	24
	No. of persons dwelling therein	84
(b)	No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	4
	No. of families housed during the year	46
	No. of persons concerned in such cases	148

DISINFESTATION.

Particulars of action taken during 1950. Number of houses found to be infested :—

Council Houses	1
Other Houses	2

Number of Houses Disinfested :—

Council Houses	1
Other Houses	2

Methods employed for Disinfestation of Houses :—

Spraying, fumigating, cleansing and disinfecting.

Is the work of disinfestation carried out by the Local Authority or by a Contractor? By the Local Authority.

Methods employed for ensuring disinfestation of belongings of tenants before removal to Council Houses :—

All furniture and goods are put through the fumigation van where necessary.

I am, yours obediently,

J. ECKERSLEY, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., R.P.

Sanitary Inspector.

